

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1501**

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Dave Joyce  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations,  
Subcommittee on Homeland  
Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations,  
Subcommittee on Homeland  
Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Joyce and Ranking Member Cuellar:

As you craft the fiscal year 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you include \$11,000,000 in community project funding for the Dubuque Flood Mitigation Gates and Pumps at the Confluence of the Mississippi River and Bee Branch Creek, located at 50 West 13th Street, Dubuque, IA 52001.

This project will support the City of Dubuque's disaster mitigation efforts. Dubuque, a vibrant community bordered by the Upper Mississippi River, is frequently impacted by severe flooding. This mitigation will provide a system that can accommodate catastrophic flooding levels, as Dubuque experienced between 1999 and 2011 that resulted in six presidential disaster declarations due to extensive public and private property damage. Dubuque's disastrous floods impacted more than 1,300 homes and businesses.

Dubuque has made strides in its efforts to prepare for and respond to these events. This city's flood mitigation project will work in tandem with the recently completed Bee Branch Creek Restoration and Culverts Projects, which together will prevent an estimated \$600 million in property damage over the next 100 years. The gates and pumps project will prevent both Bee Branch watershed flooding and Mississippi River inundation of the city's most at-risk neighborhoods and businesses.

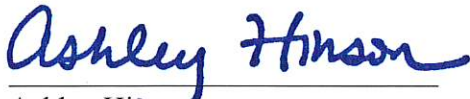
The new flood gates will be constructed on the basin side of the levee, which will allow for the pumps to operate more efficiently, eliminating environmental concerns and allowing for operation of the existing facility to maintain flood protection during construction of the new facility. Instead of utilizing the two existing 90,000 gallon per minute (gpm) pumps that are more than 50 years old, the new facility will have four 90,000 gpm pumps. This allows for redundancy in the event of a pump failure.

This funding is an essential investment in mitigation efforts by constructing gates and pumping structures to prevent watershed flooding. In addition to the disaster mitigation and management

potential of this project, the certainty provided by increased flood protection and reduced risk will bolster opportunities for economic development in the city, leading to a revitalization of more flood-vulnerable areas of the historic community. Flood protection and disaster resilience are imperative for Dubuque and this project can save lives, businesses, historic areas, and property.

Additionally, the project has robust support from the City of Dubuque and the greater community, for which flood mitigation and protection are serious issues reflecting immediate need. I strongly urge the Committee to include this community project funding request in the FY24 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,



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Ashley Hinson

Member of Congress

Committee on Appropriations